



May 5, 2014

ConnectME Authority Phillip Lindley, Executive Director 138 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Funding - Region 2 Washington County

Connect ME Funding requested: \$121,500 (Approximate)

Total Project Cost: \$194,300 (Approximate)

Dear Members of the Connect Maine Authority,

Axiom Technologies submits this pre-application letter to ConnectME for funding to provide broadband service to 162 unserved homes located in the following towns: East Machias, Machiasport, Roque Bluffs, Machias, Marshfield, Whitneyville, Cutler and Northfield. The homes are located within Axiom's existing Wireless Network footprint. The targeted homes have confirmed negative site-surveys, located in geographically challenged areas, and unable to connect to Axiom's existing Line-of-Sight Wireless Network.

Axiom Technologies is a telecommunications company located in Machias, Maine that provides broadband, Internet access options, technical computer and networking services and computer skills training to businesses and residential subscribers. For the past nine years, Axiom has worked diligently to bring high-speed broadband service to the unserved areas of Washington County.

Axiom has been experimenting with TV White Space technology over the past year, working directly with the manufacturer(s) and national TV White Space consultants. TV White Space is a Non Line-of-Sight technology. The results have been excellent and confirmed as a last-mile solution to reach the unserved homes in difficult geographical areas. The targeted 162 homes are ideal candidates for TV White Space technology.

Broadband availability confirmation of the unserved homes and businesses has been completed via the ConnectME Broadband Map and U.S. National Broadband Map. Axiom is a reseller of Fairpoint Communications DSL services and as such has confirmed that FPC's DSL is not available for the targeted 162 homes and businesses in this location. Time Warner Cable is also not available in these locations.

Broadband Service will be delivered to the customer's premises (either business or residential) via TV White Space Wireless technology. During the grant application process, an engineering study will be completed to determine the most cost-effective and efficient method for broadband delivery.

Axiom's subscriber bandwidth for this project will follow the FCC recommendation of 3 Mbps to 6 Mbps and will likely be capable of 10 Mbps Symmetrical service for homes and businesses.

Axiom Technologies is committed to bringing broadband service to specific unserved homes in East Machias, Machiasport, Roque Bluffs, Machias, Marshfield, Whitneyville, Cutler and Northfield with ConnectME grant funding. Approximate total budget for the project is \$194,300, however, a final budget and grant request will be submitted with the final ConnectME Grant Application.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Corbett, CEO